

Name _____

Date _____

Thunderstorm

It was a hot, still, summer afternoon. The temperature had reached 93 degrees (**and, reach, beet**) the humidity was high. My buddy (**Beat, Alex, Doll**) and I were fishing on Green (**Junk, Lake, Yeast**). We didn't have a boat, so (**we, sea, deep**) fished from the shore. Luckily, we (**agree, eagle, found**) a huge, oak tree near the (**candy, shore, degree**). We were able to cast our (**lines, career, kind**) from the shade of this beautiful (**feeble, right, tree**). Dressed in our sleeveless t-shirts and (**funny, cut-offs, tangle**), we tried to stay cool. If (**only, little, week**) we could catch some fish.

Catching (**wheat, fish, bead**) soon seemed unimportant. Most of the (**peach, sweet, afternoon**) the sky had been a bright (**blue, weave, hilly**), but now things were changing. We (**tardy, could, cheap**) see white puffy clouds forming to (**the, jump, meal**) west. We felt a warm breeze (**dirty, dangle, coming**) from the east. That combination usually (**steal, meant, sleep**) rain was coming. Soon the puffy (**white, peel, newly**) clouds stretched upward, forming gray anvil-like (**tepee, figures, dark**) in the sky. I remembered my (**dad, kind, refuse**) called these thunderheads. He always said (**short, leak, to**) get away from these.

The sky (**tight, looked, profit**) ominous. Clouds were upon us and (**your, beside, the**) breeze had turned into a strong (**care, wind, night**). Raindrops were beginning to fall. In (**sleep, the, torn**) distance we heard the rumbling of (**thunder, purple, went**) and saw the flash of lightening. (**Behind, Again, Side**), I remembered my dad's advice. He (**said, talk, learn**) if you saw lightening and heard (**really, your, thunder**) within 30 seconds, the storm was (**kick, within, would**) six miles. It was time to (**leave, train, center**).

Name _____

Date _____

Chopsticks

Have you ever used chopsticks? I know it looks hard, and (**it, ran, pond**) can be when you first try (**tank, to, bring**) learn to use them. Remember, though, (**band, call, learning**) to use a fork was hard (**at, bran, fond**) first, too. My dad complains that (**prank, I, king**) still don't hold the chopsticks in (**brand, ball, the**) correct way, but I don't care (**win, tent, because**) I can get the food from (**chunk, the, hang**) bowl into my mouth the way (**I, round, grin**) use them.

I had to learn (**lend, to, sunk**) use chopsticks because one time when (**I, sound, hill**) was only ten years old I (**hound, was, bang**) going to eat with them for (**flung, swell, a**) whole year. Using chopsticks got pretty (**easy, scream, ford**) after a while, and I became (**well, so, street**) skilled that I even learned to (**pick, block, ground**) up oily peanuts with them. I (**greet, was, snail**) surprised to learn that some foods, (**slang, twin, like**) noodles, are actually easier to eat (**with, start, well**) chopsticks.

The Chinese always use the (**drank, chopsticks, black**) in their right hands. Since I (**sing, bray, am**) left-handed, I used them in (**my, round, plan**) left hand. I thought I had (**gland, spin, learned**) to use chopsticks pretty well, but (**after, skin, wept**) an entire year the Chinese people (**clip, drive, still**) stared at the way I used (**my, stand, flight**) chopsticks. Of course, they were staring (**mend, clean, because**) I was using my left hand.

Name _____

Date _____

Freedom Trail

After we got off of the train, found the hotel, and got into our room, we unpacked our bags. It seemed to take forever, but (**finally, grand, teller**) we were ready to go out (**cream, sightseeing, drill**).

"We're in Boston, so I think (**scum, tent, we**) should really start out our sightseeing (**by, funny, swept**) walking the Freedom Trail," said Dad.

"(**Twist, That's, Longing**) the trail that Paul Revere rode (**banner, sound, along**) to warn the people that the (**British, sander, clasp**) were coming."

In the lobby of (**clink, the, spell**) hotel we got a map showing (**ponder, run, us**) where we might best begin our (**walk, spring, crisp**) along the Freedom trail. The beginning (**longer, found, of**) the trail was quite some distance (**from, stand, small**) the hotel, so we rode in (**flight, a, fact**) taxi to its origin. The trail (**started, mend, swell**) in a big park called the (**Trunk, Boston, Cleaner**) Commons where many people were enjoying (**felt, lift, themselves**) by feeding the birds. Children were (**riding, swimming, raking**) bikes or skateboards. Some people were (**standing, laughing, playing**) music or selling things they had (**made, under, behind**).

On the sidewalk, a red line (**rich, marked, mixture**) the Freedom Trail. We followed it (**limit, total, until**) we came to a cemetery where (**we, deal, down**) opened an iron gate and went (**nation, free, in**). Dad said that the names were (**of, lawyer, empty**) people who had lived in Boston (**route, pack, over**) 100 years ago. Next, we came (**to, trip, subject**) an old church. The buildings around (**money, it, missed**) were new, but the church had (**been, home, letter**) preserved. Up on the top was (**large, a, cart**) huge bell that rang every day (**guess, people, at**) noon.

Name _____

Date _____

Cookies

The first thing you need to know about me is that I like cookies. I have always liked them and (**probably, hound, bang**) always will like them. Now you (**flung, will, swell**) understand why the following experience was (**scream, ford, so**) incredible to me.

I was riding (**with, white, stream**) my family on a bus in (**Break, Taiwan, Blood**). We had been with a large (**purpose, group, heard**) of people sightseeing around the country. (**Everyone, Justice, Accept**) on the bus was from Taiwan (**grain, between, or**) America. I had been listening to (**the, nothing, which**) man and his little boy sitting (**welcome, in, hitch**) front of me. They were from (**jump, Taiwan, never**) and the five year old boy (**had, together, repeat**) lived in Taiwan all his life. (**Week, Hospital, All**) during the trip the boy stared (**know, should, at**) me. He had never before seen (**place, someone, open**) with blonde hair.

The boy had (**suggest, print, been**) asking his dad for a cookie. (**His, Laugh, System**) dad said no and tried to (**wait, scared, ignore**) him. However, the boy's voice kept (**recover, getting, could**) louder and louder. "Dad, can I (**have, farmer, item**) a cookie now? Dad, Dad, I (**wonder, your, want**) a cookie," he kept asking. I (**went, longer, waited**) for his dad to get really (**attend, upset, water**).

Finally, the father looked at him (**remain, mean, and**) said, "I told you -- no cookies. (**Need, Only, Season**) sea weed!" His dad handed him (**something, train, conduct**). To my shock, the boy accepted (**concern, it, their**) and began eating it. When the (**bus, smile, heart**) stopped I found out what it (**down, complete, was**) and bought some at the store. (**Iron, I, Flower**) was surprised, it wasn't bad! Since (**that, marriage, spend**) day, I have learned to eat (**queen, use, and**) like the dried pressed seaweed. I (**guess, tomato, crime**) you never know when you'll learn (**place, to, manual**) like something new.

Name _____

Date _____

Winona

Winona had straight black hair that came to her shoulders. Her eyes were deep brown and (**sparkled, reach, tongue**) when she smiled. Her ancestors were (**thimble, part, pen**) of the Chippewa Indian tribe. Now (**junk, her, brittle**) family lived in the city in (**quick, loan, a**) large house. Many other Indian families (**lived, slight, plowed**) in her community. Her aunts and (**asked, uncles, wing**) and grandparents were all close by.

(**Spill, Tin, One**) of Winona's most favorite pastimes was (**talking, dead, mingle**) to her grandfather. She loved to (**team, hear, little**) him tell of life in the (**stay, handle, old**) days. Back then her people lived (**close, store, look**) to nature. They understood and were (**limit, rank, friends**) with the animals and birds around (**them, flavor, knock**). They used things in their environment (**lunch, for, value**) food and shelter and clothing. At (**chew, smooth, the**) same time, they were careful to (**relief, always, deal**) leave plenty for future generations.

"Life (**in, huge, interest**) those days was simple," said Winona's (**river, grandfather, nothing**) during one of their discussions, "we (**had, never, panic**) some difficult times, but our needs (**tumble, were, sound**) few."

Sometimes, Winona would dream of (**the, harder, winter**) past. She wished that she could (**rear, go, lawn**) back in time for just one (**day, that, down**) to experience that life. At the (**scale, built, same**) time, she knew that it would (**be, number, angle**) much more difficult and demanding than (**talk, captain, her**) present life.

Name _____

Date _____

The Green Frog Mystery

"Look at the size of that frog!" exclaimed Jose. "Let's try to catch him for (a, reach, misty) pet."

Angela looked at the frog, (pen, and, brightly) it certainly was the biggest frog (junk, brittle, she) had ever seen. It was also (quickly, the, loaned) greenest frog she had ever seen, (and, mangle, candle) its bulging eyes seemed to beckon (spill, them, lulled) to follow. Every time Jose grabbed (for, bumble, longed) the frog, it hopped several yards (spank, ahead, little). Once he fell to the ground (with, handle, stay) his hands cupped over the frog, (plowed, team, but) it slipped out and continued hopping.

"(Come, Beetle, Rank) on, Angela, you have to help (witty, me, chill)" said Jose. "If you position yourself (way, short, deep) ahead of me, then you can (dusty, cattle, grab) him."

Angela and Jose tried their (furry, new, hardy) approach several times, but each time (behind, thing, the) frog got away. After he jumped (away, relax, note) from them he would stop and (press, look, portion) at them as if to say, "(Begin, Letter, Come) and get me!"

"I'm getting tired (of, things, tell) this," Angela complained. "Let's just forget (story, about, house) the frog and go home."

"Wait!" (stiff, from, said) Jose excitedly. "What's that?" Angela's eyes (followed, write, fact) in the direction of Jose's pointed (hour, bottom, finger). Straight ahead, only a few yards (away, army, what), stood an enormous house.

Name _____

Date _____

A Long Day

Our sightseeing trip was fun, but Antonio got tired of walking. We didn't know what to do (**with, bake, date**) someone who couldn't walk, so Papa (**came, gave, sale**) him a ride on his back. (**Cape, Blame, I'll**) bet lots of fathers have carried (**their, cake, scant**) children when they got tired of (**fate, sightseeing, glass**).

Finally, we got to the famous (**fame, twain, bay**) where the riot called the Boston (**Tea, Pale, Glean**) Party had occurred. There were lots (**scorn, of, tape**) ships in the bay that we (**might, flame, plate**) see, but we were all getting (**lake, snake, hungry**) so Papa took us into a (**scum, small, pave**) shop. We looked at the food (**tale, drive, counter**) and saw all kinds of fish (**lying, shape, brag**) on ice. None of it looked (**frame, press, very**) tasty too us, so we ate (**some, make, blond**) shrimp instead.

All of a sudden (**Late, Plank, Antonio**) said, "I want to go swimming."

"(**Lame, Me, Sway**) too, said our sister Selena. "This (**has, rave, small**) been fun, but I'd like to (**scrub, go, whale**) back to the hotel and jump (**into, stall, drape**) the swimming pool."

"Okay," Dad agreed, "(**Flake, I, Span**) think we've had enough walking for (**take, drank, one**) day."

Instead of taking the taxi (**back, track, meat**) to the hotel, this time, we (**commit, return, rode**) the bus. When we got off, (**we, shake, gaze**) still had to walk two blocks (**wake, brush, to**) the hotel, and I was so (**tired, frill, tame**) when we arrived that I slept (**crib, instead, skate**) of going swimming.

Name _____

Date _____

Off We Go

In preparing for their hike, Steve's father gave them several important items. He gave them a compass, which (**would, found, long**) help them figure out what direction (**crisp, they, spring**) would be walking. He also gave (**run, pond, the**) boys a first aid kit in (**spell, clink, case**) one of them got hurt. Finally, (**he, clasp, sand**) offered the boys some waterproof matches (**sound, band, that**) might come in handy in case (**it, long, twist**) rained.

Soon the day arrived for (**swept, fun, beginning**) the hike. Steve and Bob carefully (**looked, tent, scum**) over their equipment to make sure (**drill, they, cream**) had everything. Both boys placed the (**gear, tell, grand**) in their backpacks. After trying on (**play, crank, his**) pack, Bob thought his was too (**light, frill, boost**). When he checked the pack he (**strand, along, found**) that he had forgotten the pots, (**bill, slant, pans**) and cups needed for cooking. Fortunately, (**they, growl, split**) hadn't left home yet and he (**sell, was, strict**) able to pack the cooking gear.

(**Glad, Frisk, Steve's**) dad drove the boys to the (**beginning, spell, blink**) of Ridge Trail. It was a (**paint, sunny, bond**), summer day and both Bob and (**Steve, lump, felt**) were glad to start their hike (**sun, cramp, on**) a warm, dry day. After walking (**strung, for, mean**) several hours on the first day (**the, write, seven**) boys began to tire. It seemed (**white, as, return**) if they had been going uphill (**green, renew, the**) whole time. Finally, they arrived at (**Down, Pine, Were**) Lake in the late afternoon. Bob (**was, pain, while**) ready for a swim, but Steve (**came, turn, said**) he was too tired.

Name _____

Date _____

Halloween

What night every year is the most exciting? When I try to answer that (**question, hound, bang**) I have lots of nights to (**flung, choose, swell**) from. Christmas Eve may be the (**scream, ford, best**) of all. That's when all of (**our, well, street**) family gets together again. Everybody seems (**block, to, ground**) be full of love at Christmas.

(**Greet, Snail, The**) night before my birthday is a (**very, slang, twin**) special one for me. When you (**slung, well, are**) a child you always want to (**be, start, fill**) another year older. A birthday is (**drank, black, exciting**) because it is your special day. (**Everyone, Sing, Bray**) pays attention to the person who (**round, plan, has**) a birthday.

I'm trying to choose (**the, plank, gland**) most exciting night of the year (**spin, for, hill**) kids, though. When I think about (**drunk, clip, exciting**) nights that come every year I (**can't, wept, drive**) help but think about Halloween. Wow! (**Stand, Small, I**) don't know who invented Halloween, but (**it, flight, fact**) must have been a kid.

Just (**mend, swell, think**), a night when you can dress (**trunk, up, clean**) in a scary costume and walk (**felt, lift, around**) in the dark. A night when (**you, found, long**) can go to someone's house and (**crisp, spring, get**) free candy! I only wish I (**run, didn't, pond**) eat too much and get sick (**every, spell, clink**) year.

Name _____

Date _____

The Beach

The best way to cool off on a hot summer day is to go to the beach. Where I live, we don't have (**air, mud, cattle**) conditioning and the temperature can get (**reach, up, freely**) into the 90's some days. To (**doll, tight, keep**) the house cool, we pull all (**settle, the, pen**) shades down and turn on fans.

(**Sometimes, Hardy, Deeply**), it's so hot that we just (**candy, spend, silly**) the whole day at the beach. (**Other, Junk, Mangle**) times, we go after dinner for (**dusty, a, newly**) quick swim to cool off before (**dirty, settle, going**) to bed.

At the beach we (**battle, stick, loaned**) an umbrella in the sand and (**junk, foggy, lay**) out a blanket to mark our (**chill, territory, tight**). But most of our time is (**dark, little, spent**) down by the water. The sand (**is, kettle, tangle**) wet and cool and the breeze (**dandy, off, lightly**) the water makes you forget how (**jelly, sadly, hot**) it is back home. We bring (**a, pity, fog**) cooler with food and drinks and (**tardy, funny, some**) sand toys for the little kids. (**Little, I, Jingle**) like to swim out to the (**dock, brittle, witty**) with my friends and practice diving (**deep, much, off**). Sometimes we throw "treasures" into the (**kind, water, could**) and try to find them underwater. (**My, Matter, Trend**) mom can relax under the umbrella (**asked, and, longed**) read her book since there is (**a, plowed, spill**) lifeguard to watch us in the (**team, water, coax**).

When we get back home, it (**doesn't, ranked, trust**) feel so bad. Besides, we're so (**mailed, beetle, tired**) from swimming that we can fall (**right, angle, candle**) to sleep. It's a great way (**stirred, plant, to**) stay cool.

Name _____

Date _____

Basketball Game

Do you like to get very excited and yell and cheer? If you do, then go to (**a, clam, speech**) high school basketball game. I should (**glide, warn, smoke**) you that if you go, there (**milk, spree, will**) be an awful lot of noise (**flirt, and, steal**) music. When you put all the (**students, roast, blank**) from two different schools together in (**saint, the, strode**) same building, and each school has (**prime, disk, its**) band playing, it can be hard (**to, fact, scrub**) hear what the person next to (**grove, snake, you**) is saying.

Don't let that stop (**you, crowd, lamp**) from going to the game, though, (**theft, sprain, it's**) really fun, and before you know (**it, trip, sway**) you will be yelling and cheering (**frog, quilt, along**) with everyone else. In fact, you (**will, wept, strife**) probably cheer even if you don't (**plow, know, draw**) any of the players on the (**skill, gasp, teams**). At the beginning of the game (**you, cramp, smelt**) may wonder why people are yelling (**tramp, which, so**) loud. Don't bother to ask the (**blond, stamp, person**) next to you why people are (**yelling, trust, spleen**). That person will probably say, "Who (**flame, shred, cares**)? Everyone else is cheering so I (**do, split, bright**) too!" Sometimes I think that everyone (**state, at, pump**) the game is crazy. What do (**you, starch, desk**) think?

Name _____

Date _____

The Mansion

When Jose and Angela looked up and saw the house Angela cried out, "Where are we anyway? I thought we were in the (**middle, rain, oak**) of nowhere and all of a (**grain, sudden, roach**) here is this huge house. It's (**load, weave, a**) mansion!"

"I don't know where we (**loaf, are, easy**)," said Jose, "but I'm not going (**to, read, toast**) be afraid and run away, I'm (**three, soap, going**) to investigate this place. This has (**to, coal, sheep**) be where the frog was leading (**bean, us, roam**). Are you coming with me or (**do, oats, heel**) I have to explore this place (**dough, lawn, by**) myself?"

"Are you sure it's safe?" (**Angela, Road, Steam**) replied. She hesitated on the path (**peach, leading, coach**) toward the front door all the (**while, loan, peak**) considering what she should do. Just (**sweep, then, blow**) the frog that had been leading (**them, soul, pour**) jumped onto the front steps of (**four, the, court**) mansion and hopped through the partially (**open, throw, pillow**) front door. "All right, all right" (**lone, fire, croaked**) Angela. "If a frog can go (**toad, in, wheel**), I can go in, but let's (**stay, brand, yours**) together."

"Here it goes," Jose said (**softly, what reason**) as he slowly pushed the door. (**Time, Come, The**) hinges squealed and cobwebs fell as (**the, winner, next**) door opened. They could hear a (**trials, would, fluttering**) sound in the air and what (**must, really, create**) be other creatures skittering in the (**next, dark, snow**) so when Jose looked at Angela (**type, they, heaven**) turned and ran out of the (**house, text, dough**) as fast as they could and (**word, never, cruise**) went back.

Name _____

Date _____

The Hot Air Balloon

"Is this how we fill up the balloon with air?" asked Tommy.

"Not quite," the pilot (**responded, alcove, slice**). "We need to put hot air (**froze, in, mine**) the balloon. This fan just helps (**note, bride, us**) get started. As soon as the (**hope, balloon, prize**) is partially full, I will turn (**on, hose, smile**) the burner, which makes the hot (**snore, air, mine**). As you know, hot air rises. (**Role, When, Slice**) the balloon gets enough hot air (**in, smoke, style**) it, the balloon will rise, and (**woke, with, twine**) this basket connected to the balloon, (**we'll, tide, joke**) be able to go for a (**slope, ride, size**)."

After a few more adjustments, Mr. (**Jumping, Mole, Johnson**) turned to Tommy and asked, "Are (**broke, you, coke**) ready for me to turn the (**burner, stove, those**) on?"

"Yeah!" Tommy yelled excitedly. The (**sore, pilot, pine**) turned the control knob on his (**code, there, gas**) tanks and lit the burner. A (**huge, robe, line**) flame leaped out and roared. Pointed (**write, at, mean**) the opening at the bottom of (**more, spine, the**) balloon, the burner soon began to (**huge, fill, mind**) the balloon with hot air.

Slowly (**the, chose, like**) balloon began to grow and grow. (**Cone, Vote, Tommy**) couldn't believe his eyes as the (**balloon, hole, divide**) lifted off the ground and rose (**white, into, know**) the sky. It's so tall, he (**green, play, thought**) to himself. It must be as (**ride, high, jump**) as a four story building. He (**began, month, were**) to take pictures with his camera. (**Really, Sammy, Under**) and Ted will never believe this!

(**Pipe, Hunt, Soon**) the balloon was ready to take (**off, belief, safe**). Tommy climbed into the basket with (**store, noise, his**) father and the pilot.

Name _____

Date _____

The Vote

There was a period of silence while the students considered the options that had been raised. President Alicia took this opportunity to (**summarize, twenty, freely**). "So far," she explained, "we have (**muddy, had, pity**) three suggestions. One, a picnic at (**mud, bad, the**) beach; two, an all night party (**at, tardy, white**) school, and three, an evening party. (**Handy, Swift, Any**) other new ideas before we put (**dirty, tackle, these**) to a vote?"

Jan spoke next. "(**I, Doll, Deep**) agree with Jerry that an outdoor (**chill, party, middle**) is risky. The least expensive way (**settle, candy, might**) be an evening party here at (**school, brittle, dusk**). Instead of hiring a band, we (**gully, dime, could**) play records. Then our only cost (**would, jingle, wing**) be some money for snacks and (**spell, drinks, sandy**)."

"I like the idea of skipping (**the, funny, sadly**) last day of school, though," added (**mean, Craig, swift**).

No one spoke for several minutes. "(**Jelly, Right, If**) there is no further discussion, we'll (**put, jump, dollar**) the three choices to a vote." (**clean, able, declared**) Alicia. "We'll discuss details and cost (**later, year, mouse**). All those in favor of a (**cold, rattle, picnic**) raise your hand."

Only six students (**voted, kettle, danger**) for a picnic. Next, they voted (**bother, on, were**) the all night party, which received (**twenty-two, rain, player**) votes. Finally, five students voted for (**walked, an, band**) evening party.

"It looks like we'll (**pain, be, anyone**) having an all night party," said (**power, chest, Alicia**). "We'll have to set up committees."

Name _____

Date _____

A New Job

Danny was feeling pretty good about himself. He had managed to get a (quake, job, preach) after school at a doughnut shop. (It, Slid, Shade) was his first day on the (gloom, job, blink) and he was determined to succeed (flame, there, at) this one. Other jobs he had (tried, clock, play) just hadn't worked out. For instance, (plow, claim, there) was his former job as a (claim, dishwasher, speech) in a restaurant. He thought he (was, blade, fled) doing well until one day when (glass, he, power) stacked too many dishes on top (slave, crack, of) each other and broke twenty of (them, fray, bred). By the time he paid for (groan, those, trick) dishes, he had only made five (drink, stand, dollars) in two weeks. Then there was (the, scold, pain) job as carryout boy at the (smart, broom, grocery) store. Danny enjoyed talking to all (the, prop, scout) people from his neighborhood as he (drum, snug, helped) carry their bags for them.

One (day, twig, crop), he made a mistake. It just (sneer, happened, frock) to be when he was helping (plan, club, Mr.) Appleby. Mr. Appleby was one of (the, flour, bless) grumpiest men in town. He also (gleam, happened, print) to have a brand new car. (Crush, Free, When) Danny put the groceries on the (seat, bright, greet), one bag fell over. It had (spell, truck, eggs) in it and they broke on (stake, the, clash) floor and the seat. Danny had (to, grin, skin) quit that job, too. He sure (spark, hoped, blend) he would do better at the (doughnut, slight, pretty) shop!

Name _____

Date _____

Babysitting

One day Vanessa was babysitting two children. Their names were Blake and Kayla. (**Kayla, Plight, Clang**) was 4 years old and Blake (**flog, was, bleat**) two and a half years old. (**Glee, Slain, Today**) they were playing hide-and-go- (**seek, prune, crane**). While Vanessa was counting, the children (**frock, looked, broad**) for a place to hide. When (**graze, trunk, she**) was done Vanessa went to look (**dress, for, spill**) them.

She started looking in the (**closets, stain, snail**), bedrooms, even the basement. She was (**twin, cling, looking**) for quite a while and was (**getting, globe, cream**) worried. Ten minutes had passed. She (**grade, finally, speak**) decided to look outside. The kids (**skill, liked, frail**) to be outside, so she thought (**treat, smite, they**) would go there to hide.

Vanessa (**groan, looked, plea**) in the bushes and garden. She (**clean, looked, flint**) around the yard and still could (**not, bluff, glide**) find them. She was now panicking (**slight, proof, and**) almost in tears. Vanessa started calling (**creep, out, frank**) their names. It was getting late (**and, braid, gruff**) was past Blake and Kayla's bedtime.

(**Train, Drill, She**) asked neighbors if they had seen (**them, spark, still**). She got to one house and (**skirt, a, tweed**) boy answered the door. He was (**about, snatch, flint**) Kayla's age, four years old. Before (**sleet, he, froze**) could say anything the mother came (**to, trench, stack**) the door and saw how frightened (**smash, Vanessa, flight**) was. When Vanessa told her what (**starch, crab, had**) happened the mother said that Blake (**and, blunt, clown**) Kayla were inside playing.

The Guitar Player

Brian was pleased with his new electric piano. He had been saving his money (**for, robe, mice**) a year to buy the piano (**write, and, alcove**) take lessons. Brian's teacher had said (**bite, froze, he**) was ready to play in public. (**Brian, Note, Fine**) thought maybe he could play in (**hope, the, lime**) end of the year school talent (**hose, like, show**). But he didn't want to play (**on, snore, stride**) stage by himself.

Brian's teacher suggested (**born, he, tribe**) start a group. All he needed (**was, role, rice**) someone to play drums, lead guitar (**smoke, kite, and**) bass guitar. Brian thought of his (**wine, old, woke**) friend, Nicky, who had been playing (**drums, rave, time**) for several years. When the two (**hike, doze, friends**) got together they got excited about (**strike, starting, cope**) a group. Nicky had a cousin, (**torn, scribe, Chad**), who played bass guitar and he (**joined, nice, chore**) the group. But they still needed (**pole, line, someone**) to play electric guitar and the (**talent, confine, hole**) show was only four weeks away.

(**Spoke, Brian, Mile**) couldn't find anyone to play guitar. (**Dime, Joke, He**) even put an advertisement in the (**school, clove, ride**) newspaper. The three boys had been (**quote, spine, practicing**) together, but something was missing. Brian (**type, slope, was**) ready to give up on his (**plans, cloth, twice**) for starting a rock band.

One (**tore, stone, night**) while the group was practicing in (**the, pine, mole**) garage, there was a knock at (**broke, the, while**) door. In stepped Michelle, one of (**Brian's, Stove's, Size's**) classmates. She showed him her guitar.

"(**Can, Those, Beside**) I join group?" she asked.

Brian (**nose, style, shouted**) for joy. They had a band!

Name _____

Date _____

The Balloon Ride

Tommy usually did not like Mondays, but today was different. He couldn't wait, because today was (**his, jaw, book**) tenth birthday. Best of all, today (**law, was, bind**) the day for his hot air (**haul, new, balloon**) ride. When his parents asked him (**what, draw, boy**) he wanted as a gift, he (**crawl, said, took**), "A balloon ride!" He had watched (**fawn, pew, a**) television show about balloons and thought (**it, crew, enjoy**) looked exciting. All day long Tommy (**maul, rind, sat**) in school and watched the clock. (**At, Hawk, Blind**) lunchtime he told his best friends, (**Cook, Sammy, Toy**) and Ted, that he was going (**brew, on, shook**) a balloon ride after school. Both (**took, grew, of**) his buddies wanted to go, but (**Tommy, pawn, hind**) said there would only be room (**launch, for, join**) his father, the pilot and him. (**Jump, He, Lawn**) promised he would take his camera (**flew, fault, along**) and show them pictures later.

Soon (**school, throw, moist**) was over. When the bell rang, (**broil, Tommy, flower**) ran outside and found his parents (**point, employ, waiting**) in their car. He hopped in (**and, train, void**) soon they were off. Tommy's father (**hope, said, wealth**) the balloon pilot had called earlier (**brook, to, oil**) say the weather conditions were perfect (**for, drawer, lunch**) the ride. They agreed to meet (**attend, live, at**) the fairgrounds on the edge of (**town, house, barn**).

Name _____

Date _____

State Fair

Every summer, at the end of August, we go to the State Fair. My brother and I love to (**go, best, hung**) to the State Fair. There is (**sink, so, stand**) much to do and see. We (**trunk, sting, like**) the rides, the games, the animals, (**and, sunk, ground**) the shows.

The rides are awesome. (**Pond, The, Dunk**) roller coaster always has lots of (**bran, clan, high**) speed twists and turns that leave (**us, blend, sell**) laughing. My favorite ride is the (**Blink, Spell, Big**) Drop, which plunges over 75 feet. (**We, Fun, Sang**) also like the Cascade Falls ride, (**fond, which, sang**) drenches us in cold water. On (**drank, long, a**) hot summer day, that may be (**hint, the, crank**) best ride.

The games on the (**Midway, rest, bring**) are also fun. My brother is (**faint, sin, really**) good at shooting basketballs and throwing (**baseballs, seven, drill**). I'm better at the shooting gallery (**grand, games, found**) and usually win lots of prizes. (**One, Strict, Run**) game that neither one of us (**spill, is, song**) good at is the tossing the (**plastic, split, mean**) rings over the necks of empty (**could, soda, make**) bottles. Neither one of us can (**get, train, reveal**) a "ringer."

The animal exhibits aren't (**away, as, said**) much fun, but often are interesting. (**There, Seem, Sing**) are lots of different animals to (**best, live, see**). Usually one building has all the (**sail, people, farm**) animals like cows, horses, chickens, pigs, (**help, and, know**) sheep. Another building has more exotic (**animals, morning, cream**) that are found in the wilderness. (**Nose, Music, One**) of my favorites concentrates on "birds (**of, hope, bring**) prey." This exhibit includes eagles, hawks, (**fine, mess, and**) falcons.

Name _____

Date _____

Bernese Mountain Dog

The origin of the Bernese Mountain Dog can be traced back four to six thousand years ago. Stone Age farmers in the area (**of, free, groom**) Switzerland bred these dogs. At first (**lump, the, strap**) farmers used them as guard and (**plump, strict, protection**) dogs. Much later Bernese Mountain Dogs (**were, dwelt, scalp**) trained to pull milk wagons. This (**dream, dog, trust**) has also been used for herding (**sling, in, still**) the alpine meadows.

The Bernese is (**roast, crust, one**) of four breeds of Alpine herding (**dogs, welt, plant**). These breeds were very near extinction (**crowd, by, blend**) 1870. However, interest in these breeds (**clown, speak, revived**). Soon these dogs began appearing in (**shows, waist, stretch**).

Bernese Mountain Dogs are often mistaken (**for, ground, twist**) St. Bernards. This may be because (**stress, they, drown**) both came from the same region. (**One, Proud, Splash**) difference is that Bernese Mountain dogs (**trump, swept, are**) mostly black. St. Bernards are a (**reddish, strode, stand**) brown. The chest of the Bernese (**state, is, wake**) white. On its face you see (**winter, return, a**) white thin streak that eventually covers (**window, plain, the**) nose area. Brown patches are found (**sweat, on, just**) the legs and lower face. A (**small, slide, there**) brown spot is also found above (**front, each, mean**) eye.

Another difference that you might (**notice, dine, under**) is that St. Bernards are much (**years, known, heavier**) and drool a lot. Bernese males (**reach, month, haven**) 150 pounds. St. Bernard males can (**could, be, laugh**) as big as 250 pounds. Females (**for, release, behind**) both types of dogs are a (**alert, bottom, little**) smaller. Bernese Mountain dogs usually have (**smaller, write, cent**) faces than the St. Bernard.